

ROADMAP TO RESULTS

Ease into the process of making your home more efficient. If you're new to this, or you're on a very tight budget, start with the [lowest-hanging fruit](#) like double-checking your water heater's temperature setting.

The next easy steps are simple things that will fit into your shopping basket: maybe a few compact fluorescent lamps or a roll of weatherstripping.

When it's time to replace that old fridge, or other appliances, take time to shop smart. At a minimum, look for the ENERGY STAR rating. There are detailed lists of products that will take you even farther. Remember: you're not simply spending money, you're [investing for profit and comfort](#).

Redoing your kitchen? New roof? Finally adding that in-law unit? [Creating successful projects](#) can take some work. Take the time to find a home performance specialist to help you think thru all the options ahead of time, and then [find the right contractor](#) with the skills to do the job right.

Not only will these upgrades pay for themselves many times over, there are all kinds of [financial incentives](#) to help you trim the cost. And many of the "[non-energy benefits](#)" will be worth more than money can buy.

And, don't forget about saving [water](#) (which also saves energy).

Stumped? [Ask an expert](#).